

January 24, 2012

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 11-42 - Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization
NOTICE OF EX PARTE PRESENTATION

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 24, 2012, F. J. Pollak, President and Chief Executive Officer, TracFone Wireless, Inc. ("TracFone"), Javier Rosado, Senior Vice President - Lifeline Services, TracFone, and undersigned counsel met with several members of the Commission staff. Those attendees included Zachary Katz, Chief of Staff to Chairman Genachowski, Sharon Gillett, Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Trent Harkrader, Chief, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, and Kimberly Scardino, Deputy Chief, Telecommunications Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.

During the meeting, we discussed issues before the Commission in the above-captioned Lifeline and Link Up Modernization proceeding. Specifically, we discussed the proposal to establish a budget for the Lifeline program as a means to manage the size of the program without inhibiting attainment of the program's goals. We also discussed the Lifeline enrollment process and the importance of development of data bases to enable Eligible Telecommunications Carriers ("ETCs") to determine whether applicants for Lifeline benefits are enrolled in qualifying programs. Recognizing that such data bases may take up to several years to implement, we urged that the Commission not mandate a documentation of program-based eligibility requirement in a manner which would preclude qualified low-income consumers from enrolling and which would harm the program during the transition to data base access. Currently, TracFone has access to state-administered data bases in the following states: Florida, Maryland, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin. A similar data base exists in New York. However, it is not available to TracFone; it is available only to those ETCs who are incumbent local exchange carriers.

We described the difficulties encountered by low income consumers in attempting to enroll in Lifeline programs in states which mandate documentation of program-based eligibility (sometimes referred to as "full certification" states). Of the more than 35 states where TracFone currently offers Lifeline service, only five states require such documentation. Those states are Kansas, Missouri, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Texas. The other states where TracFone provides Lifeline service as an ETC either allow for enrollment based on self-certification of program-based eligibility under penalty of perjury or provide access to data bases of enrollment eligibility information. We explained that many fewer applicants complete the Lifeline enrollment process in those "full certification" states because of the burdens on Lifeline

applicants of having to produce such documentation. We also explained that it is far more costly to enroll qualified consumers in Lifeline programs and to operate an efficient Lifeline program in such "full certification" states.

With respect to data base access, we described how TracFone is working with the United States Department of Agriculture to arrange for access to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) data bases which are administered in many states by J.P. Morgan and Company. Access to such data bases would enable TracFone and other ETCs to confirm whether Lifeline applicants are enrolled in a major Lifeline qualifying program.

Finally, we described how significant amounts of waste, fraud and abuse of Universal Service Fund resources could be eliminated by requiring all ETCs to do what TracFone does -- verify annually that all Lifeline customers remain Lifeline-eligible. Limiting annual verification to random samples of customers does little to remove non-qualified customers from the program.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, this letter is being filed electronically. If there are questions, please communicate directly with undersigned counsel for TracFone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitchell F. Brecher", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mitchell F. Brecher

cc: Mr. Zachary Katz
Ms. Sharon Gillett
Mr. Trent Harkrader
Ms. Kimberly Scardino